

REMARKS

The previous election of the claims of Group I is herewith affirmed. Withdrawn claims 13-15, 27 and 28 have been cancelled above without prejudice or disclaimer. The applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application to continue the prosecution of these claims to allowance.

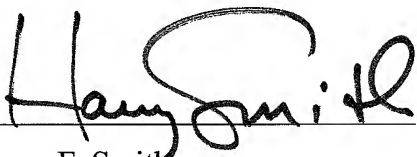
Pursuant to a telephone interview initiated by the undersigned attorney earlier today, the claims have been amended to place them in condition for allowance. More specifically, the subject matter of objected-to claim 7 has been written into claim 1, and claim 7 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1-6 and 8-10 should thus be found to be in condition for allowance. In addition, the subject matter of objected-to claim 12 has been written into claim 11, and claim 12 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 11 should thus be found to be in condition for allowance. In addition, the subject matter of objected-to claim 22 has been written into claim 16, claim 22 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and the dependency of claim 23 has been adjusted accordingly. Claims 16-21 and 23-26 should thus be found to be in condition for allowance. Further, the subject matter of objected-to claim 34 has been written into claim 29, and claim 34 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. In addition, claim 33 has been amended to recite "other program instructions", so as not to create any ambiguity with the "second program instructions" now found in independent claim 29. Claims 29-33, 35 and 36 should thus be found to be in condition for allowance.

It is hereby made of record that the amendment made above should not be construed as an express or an implied acknowledgment that the applicants are in agreement with the Examiner's rationale for rejecting the claims under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) and/or 103(a). The applicants reserve the right to file a continuation application to continue the prosecution of the claims, as originally presented, to allowance.

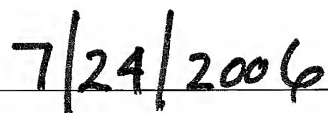
A favorable consideration that results in the allowance of all of the now pending claims is earnestly solicited.

S.N. 10/806,695
Art Unit: 2188

Respectfully submitted:


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